

DaimlerChrysler AG

Patent Claims

- 5 1. A driver authorization system (1) for means of transport, comprising
- an on-board identification device (2) for communicating with a mobile release device (31) to verify the usage authorization, and
  - 10 - a rotary ignition lock (4) for an ignition key (3), and
  - a control unit (5) for activating ignition lock functions such as starting and switching off the engine when the ignition key is brought
  - 15 into a corresponding position in the rotary ignition lock,
- characterized in that the ignition lock functions can be activated by means of the control unit (5) using a pushbutton (6), that can be mounted and
- 20 actuated on and removed from the rotary ignition lock (4) as an alternative to the ignition key, and that means are provided which allow the ignition lock functions to be activated without rotating the rotary switch.
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2. A pushbutton with an actuating element for activating ignition lock functions of a means of transport, particularly starting and switching off the engine of the means of transport,
- 30 characterized in that
- the pushbutton (6) can be mounted and actuated on and removed from a rotary ignition lock (4) of a means of transport and
  - the actuating element (62), when the pushbutton
  - 35 (6) is operated, interacts with a release switch in the on-board rotary ignition lock (4) in order to activate ignition lock functions without rotating the rotary switch.

3. The driver authorization system as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the pushbutton (6) can be inserted into a rotary ignition lock (4) constructed as rotary switch.  
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4. The driver authorization system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the inserted pushbutton (6), when operated, generates a signal which starts the communication authorizing usage.  
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5. The driver authorization system as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that when the pushbutton (6) is operated, the ignition lock functions are activated by means of the control unit (5) on the basis of additional information of the means of transport, the additional information of the means of transport comprising the position of the brake pedal and/or of the clutch pedal and/or of the door.  
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6. The pushbutton as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the actuating element (62) is constructed as release plunger (66) which, when operated, can be released in parallel with an axis of symmetry of the pushbutton (6) in order to operate the release switch in the on-board rotary ignition lock (4).  
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7. The pushbutton as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the end position of the release plunger (66) is limited by locking sliders arranged laterally to the axis of the release plunger (66).  
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8. The pushbutton as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the pushbutton (6) exhibits a locating illumination, the locating illumination

being contactlessly supplied with power.

- 5           9.    The   pushbutton   as   claimed   in   claim   8,  
              characterized   in   that   the   pushbutton   (6)   is  
              supplied   with   power   via   an   inductive   voltage  
              coupling   to   the   rotary   ignition   lock   (4).
- 10          10.   The   pushbutton   as   claimed   in   claim   2   or   4,  
              characterized   in   that   the   actuating   element  
              exhibits   a   wireless   communication   unit   which,   when  
              the   pushbutton   is   operated,   sends   a   signal   to   the  
              rotary   ignition   lock   (4)   as   a   result   of   which  
              ignition   lock   functions   are   activated.